

passing H. Res. 106. Over the past year, Turkey has pulled out of NATO exercises after France affirmed the Armenian genocide. They have threatened U.S. troops in Iraq if the U.S. reaffirms the Armenian genocide. And now they are preventing the U.N. from honoring the victims of the Rwandan genocide. Their denial has no limits.

The United States must never allow crimes against humanity to pass without remembrance and condemnation. As a society, we cannot effectively work to end crimes against humanity without recognizing those that have previously occurred.

Far too many times we have seen the horrible consequences of ignoring genocide. Even after unprecedented humanitarian efforts by Americans, the Armenian genocide had become the “forgotten genocide,” and in 1939 Adolf Hitler exclaimed to his generals to have no mercy by stating, and I quote, “who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?”

In 1994 world leaders witnessed the Hutu leaders of Rwanda kill 800,000 Rwandans, and did nothing. Today we sit idly by as militias massacre innocent citizens in Darfur; and, again, world leaders do virtually nothing. There are lessons to be learned by history. Unfortunately, Turkey has undermined the intent of the U.N. exhibit to help teach the lessons of genocide inaction.

Turkey’s policy of denying the Armenian genocide gives cover to those who perpetrate genocide everywhere. If the cycle is to end, there must be accountability for genocide. Genocide denial is the last stage of genocide.

Mr. Speaker, when will today’s world leaders stop letting Turkey deny its past? It is bad enough for Turkey to threaten and prosecute its own citizens for discussing these crimes, but to threaten to retaliate against countries that acknowledge the Armenian genocide is appalling and unacceptable. As a global community we must collectively stand for historical truth and recognize the worst humanitarian crimes that we have seen.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

RECOGNIZING MAYOR JACK CALVERT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight in recognition of Jack Calvert for 16 years of service as the mayor of the city of Lampasas in the 11th District of Texas.

Mayor Calvert graduated from New Mexico Military Institute in 1956 and served in the Army as a second lieutenant. He served in various command and staff positions, including test officer in Greenland, assistant professor of chemistry at West Point, and he served in combat in Vietnam where he was awarded the Purple Heart. After a 3-year tour at the Pentagon, he served for 3 years in Germany. Mr. Calvert then served at Joliet Army Ammunition Plant and in 1979 was assigned to the Army War College.

Following this assignment, Mayor Calvert then served as the director of Battlefield Automation at Fort Hood and after 3 years he retired from the United States Army as a colonel.

Mayor Calvert’s service to his community and his country did not end after his retirement from the military. He then served on different civic groups. He and his wife, Fran, chose Lampasas as their home and purchased a historic house to restore back to its original structure. Along with his service, he and his wife, Fran, raised three children: Charles Douglas, Lee Ann, and Mary.

As mayor of Lampasas, he successfully guided the city and its councils through many growth issues. Jack Calvert is a true leader of leaders in the 11th Congressional District, and I am proud to represent him here in the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. McCARTHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. McCARTHY of New York addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 323) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 323

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS.—Mr. Gene Green of Texas (to rank immediately after Mr. Tanner), Mr. Crowley (to rank immediately after Mr. Hinojosa).

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FAILED FOREIGN POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to be on the floor with such a distinguished Speaker. Just a few minutes ago, we cast a vote that, again, reaffirms the crucialness and the necessity of moving forward with the emergency supplemental. The motion states that this House, which it did, reaffirms the deadlines for the redeployment of the United States forces in Iraq that were contained in the House-passed emergency supplemental, a legislative initiative that captured, not the personal wants of individual Members, but responded to the immediacy of the crisis of the conflict in Iraq.

It is a commonsense document. And even now, in the backdrop of 198 brutally killed in the marketplace, most likely sustained by the false representation that there is now security in Baghdad, almost 200 persons died, which indicates, although our military strongly has defended its role and can claim a military success, we have a failed foreign policy. And so I rise today to proudly reaffirm my commitment to deadlines as relates to redeploying of our troops.

It may be that the military goes to battle, but, in fact, a nation goes to war. We owe the brave men and women of the United States military, the National Guard, the Reserves, the Air National Guard, and all aspects of the United States military, their families, the civilian force the obligation of a true and thoughtful policy that will work. The conflict in Iraq does not work. And the sadness is that even the government, the coalition government is falling apart.

Some may argue, of course, that that suggests that we should stay the course; that we will look like we are bending to the enemy. Those of us who understand the vastness of this crisis realize that we must never falter in our war against terror. We must never let al Qaeda win, but we cannot allow our soldiers to be the targets of a sectarian war.

Now, this legislation does not in any way tell the generals how to logistically move their troops. What it does do is give the policy commitment to the timelines to bring our soldiers home.

It is clear that the military action has already been a success. And I commend my colleagues to H.R. 930, my legislation, A Military Success Act of 2007 and A Diplomatic Surge Act of 2007. It is now time to declare a military victory. Our soldiers have discovered there are no weapons of mass destruction. Saddam Hussein has been deposed and been, if you will, displaced, and we have a government in place. But none of that can be, now, held for a reason that the soldiers must stay in place.

Logistically, the generals may decide to redeploy these troops to the border, redeploy them to Kuwait. We allow and also defend the right of the United States military to give a logistical response to our policy demand.

This is a demand of the American people. Sixty-nine percent of the American people, now, today, believe that we should leave Iraq. That is a gradual increase. I believe that Americans are patriots. They never cut and run. They will stand and defend their Nation.

But we have an obligation, as Members of Congress holding the purse strings, to never frivolously send our soldiers into battle. We have an obligation, as the emergency supplemental has done, to provide post-traumatic stress dollars, prosthetics, mental health needs, improving Walter Reed, helping military families, and, yes, helping children have universal access to health care.

We have a crisis in Iraq. It is a crisis made by the continuing failed policies of this administration.

Wake up. We owe a moral commitment to the soldiers on the battlefield.

I am proud to have made that vote. I will make it again. And, frankly, I am concerned that when the olive branch of conciliation has been extended to this administration to come up with a real resolution to solve this war, we get a blank check from them, or at least no response.

And so I ask my colleagues to stay the course on behalf of the American people and the patriots who are on the front line of Iraq. We owe them our duty to provide for them the right kind of road map.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF ANDREW BURRIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise to commemorate the life of Andrew Burris, a professional carpenter by trade, who gave his life today in Toledo, Ohio, as he helped place the finishing touches on the largest Federal transportation project in Ohio's history. Burris suffered fatal injury as he worked to complete Interstate 280's new river crossing known as the Veterans Glass City Skyway that spans the Maumee River, the largest river flowing into the Great Lakes.

At approximately 9:15 this morning, 36-year-old Andrew W. Burris, of Curtice, Ohio, fell to his death from a scaffolding on the north side of the bridge. He was a faithful and dedicated member of the Carpenters Union Local 1138. As a carpenter for nearly 10 years, his union brothers said Andrew loved his work and was an excellent carpenter.

The new skyway replaces the last drawbridge left on our Nation's inter-

state system. The cable-stayed bridge will carry three lanes of traffic in each direction over the river extending from I-75 on the north end to Navarre Avenue on the south end. The surface of the roadway will reach about 130 feet above the center of the river.

As our Nation builds forward, brick by brick, steel rod by steel rod, cement block by cement block, wood beam by wood beam, sometimes we forget the danger faced by the men and women skilled in these trades as they craft our monuments to civilization. It takes a tragedy like this to give us pause and say a silent prayer for all workers in their daily arduous labor.

Andrew's death is not the first tragedy to befall the workers on this new highway in the sky. On President's Day, 2004, a crane collapse on the Maumee River Crossing Bridge led to the death of four iron workers. This bridge to the future these men and women have been building is a monument and a testament to their work.

In the RECORD entry I offered following the death of those four iron workers on that fateful February day, I noted the men and women building the bridge had been about great deeds. We watch their incredible feats daily with admiration and, yes, with awe. We witness their minds, their muscles and hands forming of the Earth a new and better future for us all.

□ 2100

On the hottest summer days, as well as bone-chilling, subzero temperatures of winter in the north, they toiled fearlessly above us creating a majestic expression of who they were and who we are as a people.

We humbly acknowledge and publicly recognize them for their heroic, steadfast, and artful deeds as building tradesmen. The men who lost their lives leave not only their mastery of iron and concrete and steel and the creation of beauty from it as their legacy, but more importantly, they leave cherished lives and families.

The same is true of Andrew Burris. Though his life was cut short, he leaves a legacy in the bridge he helped create and in all that his carpenter's hands produced. Emily Dickinson's poem "In This Short Life" tells us:

"In this short life
That lasts an hour
How much—how little—is
Within our power."

And as we live our lives, all are affected by tragedy, some small and some great. It is the trials and tragedies of life which make us stronger and make the joys of life so much sweeter. I know this lesson of life does not decrease the sadness and pain felt by all those who knew and loved Andrew Burris. Our entire community offers its sympathy to those who called him father, husband, son, brother, friend, colleague. We celebrate him in recalling the words in "A Song of Life" by Ella Wheeler Wilcox:

"In the rapture of life and of living,

I lift up my head and rejoice,
And I thank the great Giver for giving,

The soul of my gladness a voice.
I lift up my eyes to Apollo,
The god of the beautiful days
And my spirit soars off like a swallow

And is lost in the light of its rays.
Come out of the world—come above it—

Up over its crosses and graves,
Though the green Earth is fair and I love it,
We must love it as masters, not slaves.

Come up where the dust never rises—
But only the perfume of flowers—
And your life shall be glad with surprises

Of beautiful hours.
Come up where the rare golden wine is
Apollo distills in my sight,
And your life shall be happy as mine is,
And as full of delight."

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PAUL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

STATUS OF THE SIX FOR '06 AGENDA: ZERO FOR SIX

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the Democrat majority has been in control of this House now for about 4 months, and they made a lot of commitments to the American people during the campaign just passed. And I thought tonight I would give a report on the success of their agenda.

They had six bills that they said they wanted to pass in the first 100 days or first 100 hours to get moving, and I would like to go through those bills one at a time:

H.R. 1, the first bill they introduced, Implementing the 9/11 Commission Recommendations Act of 2007 is stalled.

The Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 is stalled.

The Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2007, stalled.

H.R. 4, the Medicare Prescription Drug Price Negotiation Act of 2007, stalled.

H.R. 5, the College Student Relief Act of 2007, stalled.

And the CLEAN Energy Act of 2007, still stalled.

They have control of both Houses of the Congress, and these bills have not yet reached the President's desk, although they pledged to get these things done as quickly as possible after the election.